

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01300 090740Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 ABF-01 /016 W

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R 090716Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3151

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 1300

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO NEA/EX

USIA FOR INA, IOS, IOA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ASEC, SY

SUBJ: WATCHMAN (GUARD) FOR USIS CULTURAL CENTER

1. THE LEASE FOR THE NEW USIS CULTURAL CENTER HAS BEEN SIGNED AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE CENTER WILL BE OPERATIONAL IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
2. THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER HAS REQUESTED AND THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER STRONGLY CONCURS THAT THE CENTER SHOULD BE PROTECTED BY GUARDS ON A 24-HOUR BASIS IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE CHANCERY AND THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. THE CULTURAL CENTER WOULD REQUIRE A SECURITY RECEPTIONIST AND FIVE WATCHMEN TO PROVIDE 24-HOUR COVERAGE SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. THE RECEPTIONIST WOULD BE ON DUTY DURING THOSE HOURS THAT THE CULTURAL CENTER IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
3. THE ESTIMATED COSTS FOR THE RECEPTIONIST AND FIVE WATCHMEN WILL BE APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 8500 PER ANNUM. THE COST FOR THE THREE REMAINING MONTHS OF THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR WILL BE DOLLARS 2100.
4. THE EMBASSY PROPOSES TO INCLUDE THESE ADDITIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL IN THE CONTRACT WE NOW HAVE FOR

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THE GUARDS PROTECTING THE CHANCERY AND THE

AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. IN THIS WAY WE WILL HAVE THE
OPTION OF ROTATING THE GUARDS TO ANY ONE OF THE THREE
LOCATIONS AS CONSIDERED NECESSARY.

5. BECAUSE ALL THOSE SECURITY PERSONNEL WILL BE UNDER
ONE CONTRACT THE POST INTENDS TO CHARGE ALL SALARIES
COSTS TO THE SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES ALLOTMENT
WITH USIA PICKING UP ITS SHARE OF THE COST IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH THE SAS SUPPORT AGREEMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST TELEGRAPHIC APPROVAL
TO ENGAGE THE ADDITIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL AND NOTI-
FICATION THAT OUR SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE ALLOTMENT
HAS BEEN INCREASED DOLLARS 2100 TO COVER THE COST
FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 1975.
PELLETREAU

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